IDEAL PROGRAM
COURSE SYLLABUS
ONLINE

Dear Student,

Please read the following course syllabus carefully, especially the course expectations and activities. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with the IDEAL office, your academic advisor, or the instructor.

The IDEAL degree-completion program is designed with the adult learner in mind. Adult learners approach learning with specific goals, want to be able to directly apply new learning to their work and personal lives, and tend to learn best when the coursework is problem-centered so that they are actively engaged in the learning process. In addition, adults bring rich and varied experience to the classroom, which becomes a valuable learning resource for other students.

The IDEAL Program assumes joint responsibility in the learning process. The activities and assignments in our courses build on the shared experience of all learners in each class. This is why each student's preparation, participation and interaction in class activities and discussions are critical to the success of each course. The accelerated format of each course requires a significant amount of time outside the classroom to prepare for and complete the course assignments. This varies between students and courses; however, students typically spend a minimum of ten-twelve hours per week on course material.

To participate in the IDEAL Program, it is expected that you will do the following:

1. Participate in and complete the online orientation prior to your first online course.
2. Obtain the required course materials prior to the course start date.
3. **If you do not participate during the first week of the course, you will be dropped one letter grade. If a student doesn't participate for two or more weeks a grade of "F" will be entered for a final grade.**
4. Login to your course a minimum of three times per week.
5. Complete all assignments to the best of your ability.
6. Participate in the class discussions and demonstrate respect and consideration to the instructor and other students when they express themselves in discussion.
7. If you have any technical difficulties, you must contact the Office of Distance Education immediately at ubonline@bridgeport.edu.

It is the student's responsibility to familiarize himself or herself with and adhere to the standards set forth in the policies on cheating and plagiarism as defined in Chapters 2 and 5 of the Key to UB http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2623.asp or the appropriate graduate program handbook.

E-mail correspondence

It is imperative that you check your UB e-mail on a regular basis. All written correspondence, to include IDEAL and the University will be sent to you through his e-mail. **The University can no longer correspond to your personal e-mail account(s).**

Have questions about taking an online course? Go to:

"Instructions for Taking a UB Online Course"
[http://www.bridgeport.edu/academics/online/yourfirstcourse.aspx]

University of Bridgeport ONLINE
IDEAL Program
Capstone 390
CAPS-390-DL1-2013FA: Senior Seminar
Fall 2013
Timeframe: August 26 – December 14, 2013
Instructor: Peter Chepya

1. Where to contact me:
pchepya@bridgeport.edu
AND, in the same e-mail,
ALWAYS Cc me at:
pchepya@gmail.com
Explanation: one e-mail address backs up the other

2. My availability:
I am online everyday except Sunday, but not 24/7.
I am usually able to reply to you within 24 hours if not sooner -- not counting Sundays.
If I am going to be away and offline for more than 48 hours I will let you know.

3. How to contact me:
REQUIRED for the Subject line of all e-mail you send to me:

- You **must** put **ALL** of the following in the **Subject** line of **ALL** e-mail you send to me:

UB ONLINE CAPS 390 DL1 FA 13

Then add what the e-mail is about, e.g., **Question about the Course.**
e.g., of ***correct*** **Subject** lines:
UB ONLINE CAPS 390 DL1 FA 13: First e-mail
UB ONLINE CAPS 390 DL1 FA 13: Question about the Course

For technical assistance: UB Online phone number is 1-800-470-7307

Course Description: (**from the UB catalog**)
"The Capstone Seminar is the culmination of learning in the Core Curriculum. As such, it reflectively builds upon learning from the various liberal arts. The course is conducted as a seminar and thus requires substantial reading and informed participation. All students write an original essay that integrates themes raised in course readings and discussions."

Outcomes:
To expand comprehension through a series of challenging and interrelated texts and materials. To improve the understanding of, and potential for, creative verbal and written expression as the scholarly capstone of undergraduate experience.

Course Theme:
The **Theme** of this Capstone Seminar is: "**Collapsing Certainties**" (see below for my explanation of, and approach to, this focus)

Prof's Orientation to how we will be thinking about Collapsing Certainties from the point of view of Self, Technium, and Memory

Self
With our "always-on" use of technology, how do we define our identity in 2013 and how is it affecting our behavior? How is our willingness to share personal information altering both our sense of our Self and our awareness of others? Is our "expectation of immediacy" impacting both our understanding of the definition of knowledge (as opposed to "information") and our respect for others? For example, we can find what we think is an answer to anything on Google; and, we expect someone to reply to our text messages or e-mail immediately, if not sooner.

Technium
I use the word "**Technium**" to mean all the technology that we use and the world of technology that we inhabit. It is a word coined by Kevin Kelly, a co-founder of *Wired* magazine: www.**wired**.com/**wired**
Our emphasis will be on personal technology (e.g., personal computers; smartphones; tablets) and our relationship to these devices and also to the Internet and to the World Wide Web.

Self and Technium
Is personal technology so pervasive in 2013 that it actually *inhabits* our Self? We can't seem to be without it or do without it. It is as if it has become *a physical appendage* to our bodies, and our Self. How do we understand what is happening to us and how do we describe what we have become?

Techium and Memory
Has our continuous "screen-gazing" (my term), and the constant use we make of personal technology, changed the way we remember and what we remember? Do we remember any of the text messages or any of the e-mail we read and send all day long, each and every day – without end? How does this continuous, texting, e-mailing, and posting (e.g.,

on Facebook) affect our ability to remember anything? How did we remember events before the 2013 Technium; and, did the quality, and even the type, of our memories differ before the advent of personal technology and the Internet?

Reading/Viewing List (ALL REQUIRED):

6. ***Zelig*****,** written and directed by Woody Allen
(**DVD**; classic cinema)
http://www.amazon.com

2. ***The Philosophy of Andy Warhol***, by Andy Warhol (**book**)
ISBN 0-15-67120-4
http://www.amazon.com

6. ***THX 1138*** , director: George Lukas
(**DVD**; classic cinema)
http://www.amazon.com

4. ***You Are Not a Gadget: A Manifesto***, by Jaron Lanier (**book**)
ISBN 978-0-307-26964-5
http://www.amazon.com

5. ***What I Saw: Reports from Berlin 1920 – 1933***, by Joseph Roth (**book**)
ISBN 13: 978-0393051674
http://www.amazon.com

6. ***Fahrenheit 451*** director: Francois Truffaut
(**DVD;** classic cinema)
http://www.amazon.com

DO NOT USE E-BOOKS AS THEY OMIT PARTS OF THE EXPERIENCE

Note on Book and DVD selections:

.As you can see from the **Reading/Viewing** list, we are using an interdisciplinary approach to the many aspects of our **Theme**; therefore, we'll arrive at an understanding of the Focus through an **interdisciplinary *multi-media*** approach using **classic cinema and books**

Discussion Forum Timeframes and Grading
All Discussions are two weeks
The best online learning requires regular participation, therefore…

Post in the Discussions at least 4 times in each of the two weeks, as follows:

- **once on or before Wed of the first week (minus 25% for not doing this)**
- **once on the first weekend of the timeframe(minus 25% for not doing this)**
- **once during Mon – Fri of the second week (minus 25% for not doing this);**
- **once on the last weekend of the timeframe (minus 25% for not doing this)**
- **minus 50% for posting only on each Sat and/or Sun of the timeframe**
- **minus 100% for posting only on the last weekend of the timeframe**

All of the above is required, there is one warning only.
NOTE: During Oct 7 – 27 (three week timeframe) the above applies except that posting begins during the second week (i.e., from Wed Oct 16 onward).

The Discussion Forum Timeframes and Books and DVDs for each of them are as follows:

Aug 26 – Sept 1 **ONE WEEK TIMEFRAME**

YOU MUST POST IN THE INTRODUCTIONS FORUM during this timeframe
IF YOU DO NOT YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE COURSE.
This is IDEAL Program policy

Sept 2 - 15
Discussion Forum on:
Zelig, written & directed by Woody Allen (**DVD; classic cinema**)

Sept 16 - 29
Discussion Forum on:
The Philosophy of Andy Warhol, by Andy Warhol (**book; classic non-fiction**)

Sept 30 – Oct 6
Discussion Forum on:
THX 1138 director: George Lukas (**DVD; classic cinema**)

Oct 7 - 27 **THREE WEEK TIMEFRAME (begin posting on or before Oct 16th)**
Discussion Forum on:
You Are Not A Gadget, by Jaron Lanier **(book; non-fiction)**

Oct 28 – Nov 10
Discussion Forum on:
What I Saw: Reports from Berlin 1920 - 1933, by Joseph Roth (**book**; "**essays"**)

Nov 11 - 24
Discussion Forum on:
Fahrenheit 451, directed by Francois Truffaut (**DVD**; **classic cinema**)

Nov 25 – Dec 1 **THANKSGIVING BREAK: NO ONLINE ACTIVITY**

Dec 2 - 14 **Prof's Roundtable Discussion and, Researching & Writing Weeks**
Time reserved for you to research and write your Research Paper

-- Course ends on SATURDAY, Dec 14th --

Policy on Plagiarism / Academic Dishonesty:

- It is perfectly acceptable to broaden your knowledge about the various topics listed on the Syllabus through the use of outside resources. In fact, the **Research Paper** requires this, but these resources are not a substitute for reading the materials. Any outside sources that you use, including during your Discussion Forum postings, must be referenced.

- **Failure to cite sources and any other form of Academic Dishonesty will result in dismissal from the Course.**

- **Having someone else edit or otherwise write your work is also Academic Dishonesty**.

- **All Papers and Postings are checked through reference-checking websites.**

ACADEMIC HONESTY STANDARDS ARE ALSO ADDED TO THIS SYLLABUS BY IDEAL

Policy on Quality of postings in Discussion Forums (50% of Final Grade)

- **Also refer to** the "**Grading Standards**" in our Course for more specifics.
- A one or two sentence comment or observation is **not** sufficient.
- Postings will be graded on quality (insights; writing; spelling; grammar; originality; interactivity with classmates).
- **No "text message" language**, e.g., lol etc.

Explanation of *Critical* Essays: (30% of Final Grade; 15% each Essay)

- **500 – 750 words** in length in 12 point font; There is NO Format requirement.
- **UNDER 500 WORDS = F; include your word count at the end of the Essay; word count DOES NOT include any quotes you might use**

Some examples (these are only examples and not intended as required):

- Does the movie *THX 1138* help us understand the power of the technology? Explain.
- Does the book *What I Saw* help us understand how the QUALITY of our pre-digital memory is different than our memory in 2013? Explain.

Do not summarize the work. The Essays will be based on **YOUR** opinion, so YOU MUST state it clearly. Outside sources are NOT required.

NO ATTACHMENTS; COPY-AND-PASTE ONLY

Explanation of *Research* Paper: (20% of Final Grade)

- This will be **a minimum of 2,500 words** in length.
- Choose **one (ONLY**) of the **Books or DVDs** we have covered in the Course

What does "Research" mean?

Answer: you must use at least three (3) outside sources (books; articles; commentaries) you find anywhere (on the Internet would be a good idea) which express an appreciation (positive or negative, or both) of the book or dvd you choose to research.

Some examples (these are only examples) of how to approach the **Book or DVD** you choose:

- What do critics, and others, think of the impact of *You Are Not A Gadget*?
- How did critics, and others, react to the movie *Fahrenheit 451* at the time and subsequently, and why?

The Thesis (point of view) of the Paper:

- This Paper should represent a critical defense of a point of view based on the chosen work and outside research.

- You can conclude the Paper with your opinion but the main purpose of the Paper is to find and use the opinions of others and defend one of the points of view.

NO ATTACHMENTS; COPY-AND-PASTE ONLY

Schedule of Due Dates and Topics for Papers

DUE DATES:

1. Sunday, Oct 6th (no earlier than Friday, Oct 4th) Critical Essay #1
choose **the Book OR the DVD covered ONLY on or before Oct 6th**

2. Sunday, Nov 10th (no earlier than Friday, Nov 8th) Critical Essay #2
choose any **ONE Book or DVD covered ONLY AFTER Oct 6th**
Note: **can** include *Fahrenheit 451*

3. SATURDAY, Dec 14th (on this day or on Friday Dec 13th) Research Paper
(choose **any ONE Book or DVD** covered in the Course; **it CAN, but does not have to be a Book or DVD on which you have written a Critical Essay)**

Methods of Evaluation

50% Discussion Forum postings:
Note: "ABSENCE" POLICY:
not posting in a Forum, or any week of a two week Forum, will result in the deduction of one full grade level from your Final Grade each time it happens; e.g. , "A" becomes "B" etc.

30% 2 Critical Essays (15% each):
DUE: Oct 6th ; and Nov 10th

20% Final Research Paper:

DUE <u>on</u> SATURDAY (<u>not Sunday</u>), Dec 14th
(<u>or</u> on FRIDAY Dec 13th)

Letter Grading Scale:

% of Points Earned	Letter Grade
100-94	A
93-90	A-
89-87	B+
86-84	B
83-80	B-
79-77	C+

% of Points Earned	Letter Grade
76-74	C
73-70	C-
69-67	D+
66-64	D
63-60	D-
Below 60	F

-- End of Syllabus --

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Ethics Statement of Confidentiality
An integral component of an IDEAL course is student and faculty expression of personal experiences for the purpose of facilitating coursework. Students enrolled in the program are expected to honor confidentiality as it pertains to student disclosure. Shared information, comments, or opinions expressed by another student or the faculty member during the course of classroom discussion should never be used in a manner which is intended to humiliate, embarrass, harass, damage, or otherwise injure other students in their personal, public, or business lives. In addition, confidentiality must be upheld by not disclosing any information that would identify any particular individual.

Attendance Policy
Course attendance, especially in an online course, is an integral part of the academic experience; therefore, students are expected to be participative in all course activities and discussions. If you do not participate during the first week of the course, you will reduce the final grade by one letter grade. If you cannot participate in all the course activities you should consider dropping the course.

Drop Procedures
To drop a course, you must complete and submit a Schedule Change Request Form. The form can be accessed at the following web page:

http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2595.asp

<u>Starting Fall 2012</u>

- Drop a course after the start date.....$30.00 per transaction
- Drop prior to the start date…….....100% Tuition Refund
- Drop prior to the second week of the course.....75% Tuition Refund

- Drop prior to the third week of the course.....50% Tuition Refund
- Drop during/after the third week of the course…..…....0% Tuition Refund

****Please note students <u>will not be</u> automatically dropped for not participating during the first week. Lack of participation for one week will reduce the final grade by one letter grade. If you have to miss the first week of the online course, *you must contact your instructor* in writing before the first week. However, a grade reduction will apply.**

Please print and complete the form and fax the form to the IDEAL Office: 203-576-4537. Prior to dropping a course, the student should contact their IDEAL Academic Advisor to understand the implications to financial aid and/or degree plan progress.

Please review the Academic Calendar to see the fees for a drop and the impact on tuition. The Academic Calendar can be found at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2595.asp

Academic Dishonesty

We are committed to intellectual integrity in our academic pursuits; therefore, the IDEAL program prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

Cheating – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:

> Case #1: A student is enrolled in an introductory computer-programming course. He has co-workers who program in the same language as his final project. As the end of the term approaches, he wonders how he will find the time to get the project finished, and asks one of his co-workers for help. His co-worker hands him a disk with a complete program similar to the kind required for the course project. The student makes minor modifications to the program, and submits it under his own name.
>
> Case #2: A student enrolled in a religious studies course has never taken a humanities or history course, and is unsure about how to structure a research paper. She is doing research on the World Wide Web, and comes across a paper written by a student from another university. Using her computer mouse, she copies and pastes the document into her word processor. She goes to great lengths to re-word the paper in her own style, but essentially leaves the content and organization the same.

Plagiarism – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called "research papers" without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one's own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:

> Case #3: A student is conducting research for a Civil War research paper. He has reviewed work on the Internet as well as in the library. Finding helpful information, he has summarized his findings without citing his sources. He believes that minor paraphrasing is all that is necessary.
>
> Case #4: A student is writing a paper that requires her to address specific topics and problems in the assigned course textbook. She takes the information directly from the textbook with slight modification, without giving any citation. She thinks that since it is the course textbook, she doesn't have to use quotations or citations.

Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in person or by electronic means. The University does not tolerate cheating in any form. It is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty in their own classes; generally, however, such acts will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/or the course. The penalty for subsequent acts of academic dishonesty may include expulsion.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site: http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism_test.html

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The Academic Resource Center is available for IDEAL students seeking help in their studies. The Center is staffed by writing professionals and peer tutors. More information can be found at: http://myub.bridgeport.edu/academics/academicrescenter/Pages/default.aspx The Center is located in the Wahlstrom Library, Room 506. Hours of operation are Mondays –Thursday 9am – 6pm and Fridays 9am – 1pm. Make an appointment or walk-in: Telephone: 203-576-4290. **Online Tutoring** is available at: www.etutoring.org. To use this free service you must have a UBNet account.

Obtaining a UBNet Account

Every registered student should obtain a UBNet Account. The account allows you to access your grades, access library services, access online tutoring, access the computers in computer labs, and provides an email account in which the University sends out information. Go to: http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet - Click on "New UBNet Account" and follow the instructions.

The @bridgeport.edu email address is the official email the University uses to send information to you. You can have your Bridgeport.edu email forwarded to any other email account you use. Following the activation of your UBNet account (takes 24 hours), login at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/email and click on "forwards" at the top of the page. Follow the directions to forward email messages to your other account.

Accessing Your Grades & Schedule Online

The WebAdvisor online information system allows students to search for available classes, check grades, view semester class schedule and verify your personal profile. Grades are generally posted 2-3 weeks following the end of a course. Information on WebAdvisor is password protected and requires you to use your UBNet username and password. To access WebAdvisor, go to: http://www.bridgeport.edu/webadvisor

1. Login in with your UBNet username and password.
2. Click on "Student Menu."
3. Click on "My Grades."

If you are carrying a financial balance, access to WebAdvisor will be restricted.

Using the Library

You can access the library through the library's website: http://www.bridgeport.edu/library. Research tools available:

- Search for books held at the library.

- Search the online databases for your academic field; business, counseling, human services, psychology, etc.
- Send questions to the Reference Librarian for assistance in research topics and searching strategy.

To access the online journals for research purposes, you will need a UBNet account (see above).

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Contact	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport Campus Security		(203) 576-4911	ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu
Bursar	Robinson Hernandez	(203) 576-4692	bursar@bridgeport.edu
Cashier	Lana Mistry	(203) 576-4682	cashier@bridgeport.edu
Financial Aid		(203) 576-4568	sfs@bridgeport.eud
Registrar		(203) 576-4642	registrar@bridgeport.edu
Emergency Notification Phone		(203) 576-4159	
Distance Education Office		(203) 576-4853	ubonline@bridgeport.edu
IDEAL Office		(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

Campus	Address	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport	126 Park Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
Stamford	5 Riverbend Drive Stamford, CT 06750	(203) 358-0700	ubstamford@bridgeport.edu
Waterbury	84 Progress Lane Waterbury, CT 06705	(203) 573-8501	ubwaterbury@bridgeport.edu
Woodbridge	6 Lunar Drive Woodbridge, CT 06525	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
IDEAL Office		(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

Directions to IDEAL Campus locations	http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2260.asp

To fill out your financial aid report to the Federal Government, please go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov. The school code for the University of Bridgeport is 001416.
Federal Student Aid Information: 1-800-433-3243